



**GASP! CHOKE!! IT'S BACK!!**



PAPER CUT

**NO. 1  
ALL-NEW!**

\$3.95  
\$4.95 CAN

R.I.P.  
**TALES  
FROM THE  
CRYPT**  
1950-1955



WHAT,  
ME  
DEAD?!

Kyle Baker

55 95US \$4.95CAN

01

**FIRST PAPER CUT  ISSUE!**





HEH, HEH! WELL, WE MEET AGAIN, BOLS AND SHOULS! IT'S BEEN TOO LONG. I MISSED YOU— BUT MY AIM IS GETTING MUCH BETTER! YOU DISMEMBER MY TWO FRIENDS AND ME, DON'T YOU? WE'RE SHOULANATICS, TELLERS OF TWISTED TALES OF TERROR AND SHOCK SUSPENSORIES! I'M THE CRYPT-KEEPER, HE'S THE VAULT-KEEPER, AND SHE'S THE OLD WITCH!

SHE'S A REAL LOOKER, ISN'T SHE? DROP DEAD GORGEOUS!



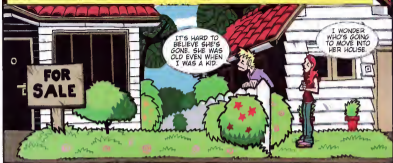
THEY'RE HERE HELPING ME DE-SOME-ATE MY CRYPT WITH PORTRAIT PAIR-TINGS OF MY FAVORITE DEAD-HEADS! WHICH REMINDS OF MY FAVORITE CHILLING STORY, ABOUT MY FAVORITE ARTIST, A MAD GENIUS KNOWN AS JACK KROLL...



I CALL IT...

**BODY  
OF  
WORK!**

NOTHING MUCH HAPPENS IN THE TOWN OF CRANWELL, NEW JERSEY, THAT'S WHY. WHEN ELDERLY GLADYS PRICE DIED, PEOPLE NOTICED, ESPECIALLY MIKE AND LINDA ANDERSON, THE MARRIED COUPLE WHO LIVED NEXT DOOR.



IT'S HARD TO BELIEVE SHE'S GONE. SHE WAS OLD EVEN WHEN I WAS A KID.

I WONDER WHO'S GOING TO MOVE INTO HER HOUSE.

DURING THE NEXT SIX MONTHS, ALL THE CUSTOMERS AT THE LOCAL DINER WHERE MIKE WORKED AS A COOK, AND LINDA, AS A WAITRESS, HAD IDEAS...



I HEARD SOME WEALTHY COMPUTER GUY WAS LOOKING THE PLACE OVER.

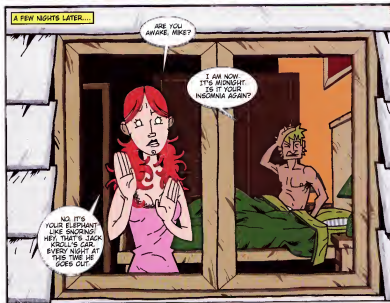
MILLIE AT THE REAL ESTATE OFFICE SAID A DOCTOR HAD EXPRESSED INTEREST.

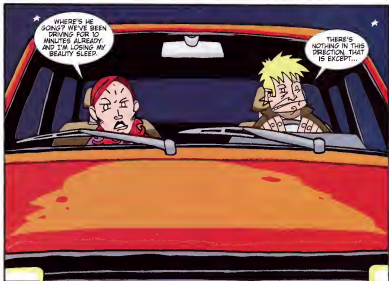
A FEW WEEKS LATER THE HOUSE WAS SOLD. A COUPLE OF DAYS LATER...



ALL ANYONE IN TOWN SEEMS TO KNOW ABOUT OUR NEW NEIGHBOR IS THAT HIS NAME IS JACK KROLL.

HE'S GOT OLDER FURNITURE THAN OURS. HE MUST BE EVEN CHEAPER THAN YOU... IF THAT'S POSSIBLE!







...THE TOWN CEMETERY! SO THAT'S WHERE HE'S BEEN GOING! BUT WHY?

MAYBE HE'S VISITING THE LAST COUPLE THAT FOLLOWED HIM AROUND AT NIGHT.



THERE HE IS! THIS IS REALLY CREEPY! EVEN SCARIER THAN OUR HONEYMOON!

KEEP YOUR VOICE DOWN; WE DON'T WANT HIM TO HEAR US.

AND WE DON'T WANT TO WAKE UP ANYONE.



HE'S PAINTING A PICTURE!

WELL, I GUESS STAMP COLLECTING ISN'T FOR EVERYONE.

ON THEIR WAY BACK HOME...

WELL, NOW WE KNOW WHERE HE GOES AT NIGHT AND WHAT HE'S DOING.

HE'S ONE SICK PUPPY.

A FEW DAYS LATER....

CHECK OUT THESE PHOTOS, BOB AT THE DRUGSTORE GAVE THEM TO ME, THEY'RE COPIES OF THE ONES THAT KROLL DROPPED OFF TO BE DEVELOPED.







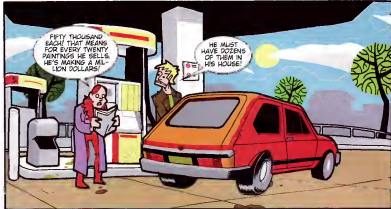
THESE MUST BE  
SOME OF HIS PAINTINGS!  
LOOK AT ALL THOSE CORPSES!  
YOU DON'T THINK HE  
ACTUALLY DIGGS THEM  
UP, DO YOU?



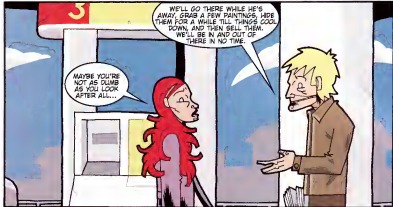
IF HE HAD  
MARTY AT THE  
POLICE STATION  
WOULDN'T HE SAID  
SOMETHING AT OUR  
WEEKLY POKER  
GAME.











A WEEK WENT BY AND THEN THE DAY CAME...

KROLL'S GETTING INTO HIS CAR. IN A FEW MINUTES THAT CREEP WILL BE ON HIS WAY TO NEW YORK.

IT TAKES AT LEAST AN HOUR AND A HALF TO GET TO THE CITY, PLUS WITH THE TRAFFIC AT THIS HOUR, YOU CAN ADD AT LEAST ANOTHER HALF HOUR.

ACCORDING TO THE ART GALLERY, THE OPENING PARTY SHOULD GO ON PAST MIDNIGHT. SO WE'RE LOOKING AT FOUR OR FIVE HOURS AT LEAST.

LET'S WAIT A COUPLE OF HOURS, THEN WE'LL MAKE OUR MOVE.

I'M SCARED.

THAT'S ASSUMING THAT HE DOESN'T STAY AT A HOTEL IN NEW YORK FOR THE NIGHT. BUT WE CAN'T COUNT ON THAT.

THINK ABOUT FLORIDA.

TWO HOURS LATER.

WE'RE IN HIS  
BACKYARD!  
WE'RE HALFWAY  
THERE

HEY, KEEP  
YOUR SHIRT ON,  
TOM CRUISE--THIS  
ISN'T MISSION  
IMPOSSIBLE!

NOW REMEMBER,  
YOU'RE STANDING  
WATCH OUTSIDE.  
CALL  
ME ON YOUR CELL  
IF  
THERE ARE ANY  
SIGNS  
OF TROUBLE.

OKAY.

MIKE PRIES OPEN A WINDOW AND LOWERS  
HIMSELF INTO HIS NEIGHBOR'S BASEMENT.

LOOK AT ALL  
THIS JUNK, IT LOOKS  
LIKE A RUMMAGE  
SALE AT STEPHEN  
KING'S HOUSE.



IN ANOTHER ROOM.

PAY DIRT! IT'S A TREASURE TROVE! THERE'S ENOUGH HERE TO PAY FOR OUR RETIREMENT A HUNDRED TIMES OVER!

MIKE EAGERLY GRABS AS MANY PAINTINGS AS HE CAN CARRY AND RETURNS TO HIS HOUSE...

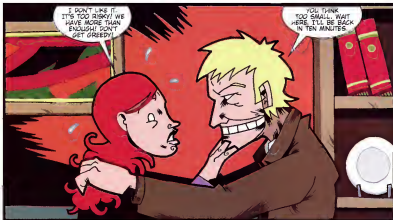
LOOK AT THEM! THEY'RE THE LIGHTEST THINGS YOU'VE EVER SEEN AND WORTH THEIR WEIGHT IN GOLD!

I DON'T BELIEVE IT. WE DID IT!

NOT YET! I'M GOING BACK AND MAKING ANOTHER RUN!

BUT WE'VE GOT PLENTY HERE!

I'LL JUST GET A FEW MORE. I'M TELLING YOU HE HAS A WHOLE BASEMENT FULL OF THEM!



I DON'T LIKE IT. IT'S TOO RISKY! WE HAVE MORE THAN ENOUGH! DON'T GET GREEDY!

YOU THINK TOO SMALL. WAIT HERE, I'LL BE BACK IN TEN MINUTES.



BACK AT KROLL'S HOUSE...

DON'T MOVE OR I'LL SHOOT YOU!

KROLL?! BUT YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO BE AT THE GALLERY IN NEW YORK!



WHEN THE HOUSE ALARM WENT OFF IN MY CAR I HAD TO COME BACK AND INVESTIGATE--WELL, WELL IF IT ISN'T MY NEXT-DOOR NEIGHBOR!

LOOK, UM, I CAN EXPLAIN...

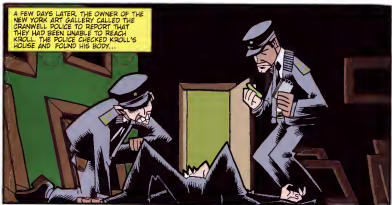




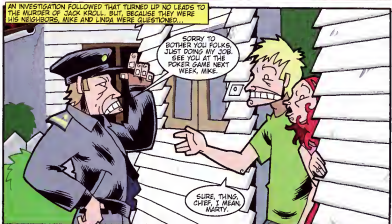
AFTER GETTING BACK TO HIS HOUSE, MIKE TOLD LINDA WHAT HAPPENED. THEN HE SHOWERED, CHANGED CLOTHES, AND TOGETHER, THEY GOT INTO THEIR CAR AND DROVE TO THEIR STORAGE UNIT OUTSIDE OF THE NEXT TOWN...



A FEW DAYS LATER, THE OWNER OF THE NEW YORK ART GALLERY CALLED THE CRANWELL POLICE TO REPORT THAT THEY HAD BEEN UNABLE TO REACH KROLL. THE POLICE CHECKED KROLL'S HOUSE AND FOUND HIS BODY...



AN INVESTIGATION FOLLOWED THAT TURNED UP NO LEADS TO THE MURDER OF JACK KROLL. BUT, BECAUSE THEY WERE HIS NEIGHBORS, MIKE AND LINDA WERE QUESTIONED...



A YEAR WENT BY, AND LIFE WENT ON IN THE TOWN OF CRANWELL, AND PEOPLE FORGOT ABOUT THE ARTIST WHO WAS MURDERED, BUT THERE WERE TWO PEOPLE WHO DID NOT FORGET...

ACCORDING TO THIS WEBSITE, NOW THAT KROLL'S BEEN DEAD FOR A YEAR, THE VALUE OF HIS PAINTINGS HAVE GONE UP A LOT.

NOW'S THE TIME TO SELL! I'VE GOT ART DEALERS IN THREE STATES THAT HAVE EXPRESSED INTEREST IN BUYING HIS PICTURES.



THAT NIGHT, MIKE AND LINDA DROVE TO THEIR STORAGE UNIT TO RETRIEVE SOME OF JACK KROLL'S PAINTINGS...

LUCKILY, THIS STORAGE FACILITY HAS TWENTY-FOUR HOUR ACCESS.

I DON'T LIKE COMING HERE AT NIGHT. IT'S SPOOKY. WHAT'S THAT NOISE?

PROBABLY SOMEONE GOING TO THEIR OWN STORAGE SPACE.



WHAT'S THAT HORRIBLE SMELL?

WHO CARES? JUST HELP ME LOAD THESE PAINTINGS INTO THE TRUNK.



BUT BEFORE MIKE AND LINDA COULD TAKE ANY MORE OF THE PAINTINGS OUT, THEY HEARD THE SOUND OF SOMETHING SCRAPING AGAINST THE ASPHALT ON THE GROUND, AND THEN THAT TERRIBLE SMELL SUDDENLY GOT MUCH, MUCH WORSE...

AND THE OTHERS... THAT BLUE DRESS... THE STRIPED SHIRT... THEY'RE KROLL'S MODELS!!

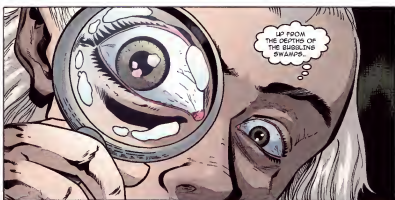
OH, MY LORD! ZCHOKEK CORPSES! JUST LIKE THE ONES IN KROLL'S PAINTINGS! ONLY THESE ARE REAL! AND THAT ONE IS DRESSED IN KROLL'S CLOTHES!

MIK EXES

THE NEXT DAY THE POLICE FOUND MIKE AND LINDA DEAD. THEY'D BOTH HAD HEART ATTACKS. THE ODDS OF THAT HAPPENING, ACCORDING TO THE MEDICAL EXAMINER, WERE ASTRONOMICAL. THE PAINTINGS WERE RECOVERED, AND SENT TO JACK KROLL'S ONLY LIVING RELATIVE; AN OLD AUNT, WHOM, FOR SOME REASON, THOUGHT THEY WERE THE MOST BEAUTIFUL THINGS SHE'D EVER SEEN.









TOMMY!

ARE YOU STILL  
PLAYING WITH  
THOSE HORRIBLE  
DOLLS?

YOU'RE  
GONNA BE LATE  
FOR WORK!



THEY AREN'T  
DOLLS, MOM!



THEY'RE FULLY-  
POSSIBLE, MICRO-  
ARTICULATED ACTION  
FIGURES!

AND I WASN'T  
EVEN LOOKING  
AT 'EM!



TOMMY DONALLEY, YOU'RE SONNA LOSE YOUR JOB OVER DOLLS?!

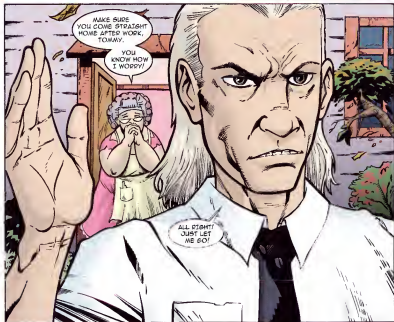
WHATEVER! I'M NOT EVEN LATE!



THEY WOULDN'T FIRE ME ANYWAY.

MACMILLAN WOULD TOTALLY CLOSE IF I WASN'T THERE!

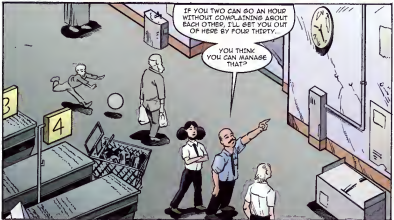
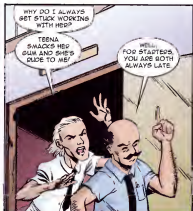
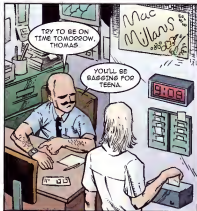
OH, YOU SOUND JUST LIKE YOUR FATHER RIGHT BEFORE HE LOST EVERY JOB HE EVER HAD. GOD REST HIS SOUL!



MAKE SURE YOU COME STRAIGHT HOME AFTER WORK, TOMMY.

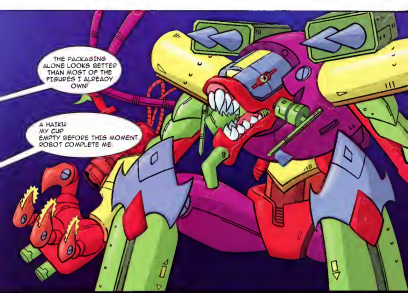
YOU KNOW HOW I WORRY!

ALL RIGHT! JUST LET ME GO!









UH, NO.

PROBABLY BETTER  
IF WE DONT HANDLE IT.  
SERIOUS COLLECTORS WILLINS  
TO DROP A HUNDRED BUCKS ON  
& PIECE LIKE THIS ARE PICKY  
ABOUT CONDITION

I CAN FIND A  
DOZEN OF THESE  
ONLINE FOR  
HALF THAT!

BE MY GUEST

I'LL BE PRICING  
UP YO-SI-MON CARDS  
IF YOU NEED ANY  
MORE HELP.

BUT LATER THAT  
NIGHT...

I CAN'T EVEN  
FIND A PICTURE  
OF IT!

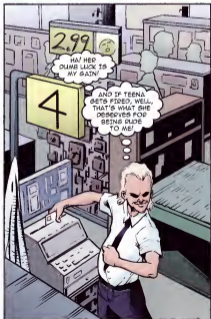
WHY DIDN'T  
I ASK HIM WHAT  
THE STUPID THING  
WAS CALLED?!

TOMMY! I THOUGHT I TOLD  
YOU TO GO TO BED!

I WON'T  
SLEEP  
A WINK  
IF I HAVE  
TO WORRY  
ABOUT WHAT  
YOU ARE UP  
TO DOWN  
HERE!









ARE YOU HOME FROM WORK, TOMMY?

YEAH, MOM!



THE HOURS SEEM TO FLY BY AS THOMAS EXAMINES HIS ILL-GOTTEN GAIN UNTIL...

DAMN I'M TOO TIRED TO KEEP MY EYES FOCUSED ANY LONGER




JUST ONE MORE DAY OF WORK TO GET THROUGH AND THEN I'LL HAVE THE WEEKEND TO LOOK AT IT AS MUCH AS I LIKE

NO NEED TO BE GOODEY. I'VE GOT MY WHOLE LIFE LEFT TO ENJOY IT.







EVEN IF THE  
DRAGON'S HOARD WILL GIVE  
ME HALF OF WHAT I PAID FOR  
THAT IMPORT FIGURE, I STILL  
WON'T HAVE ENOUGH TO PAY  
MACMILLANS BACK BY  
TOMORROW!

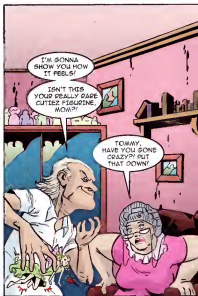
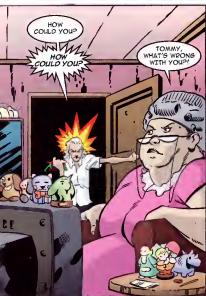
WAYRE  
THEY'LL BUY  
SOME OF  
MY OTH-



ESP!



NOOOOOOOOOO!





**KRASSSHH**



HEY, WHAT'S THAT?!











YOU BROUGHT THEM TO LIFE SOMEHOW!

HOW COULD YOU TURN MY OWN FOLLY-POSEABLE, MICRO-ARTICULATED ACTION FIGURES AGAINST ME?





Translation:  
"SUPER EVIL DEMON ROBOT!  
"COMES TO LIFE!  
"WRECKS YOUR HOME!  
"NOW 250% MORE CURSED!"



"FOR SERIOUS  
COLLECTORS ONLY"

250%呪いレベルUP!

THE END

HAI HAI HAI! TOMMY GOT MORE ACTION FROM HIS FULLY-POSEABLE, MICRO-ARTICULATED FIGURES THAN HE BARBAINED FOR!

KLIK  
KLIK

SEE, KIDDES—  
ALWAYS BE SURE  
TO READ THE LABELS!  
OR DO YOU JUST  
THINK THAT'S JUST  
A CROC-O-ZOID?

SERIOUS COLLECTORS ARE NOT  
TO BE TRIFLED WITH! THAT'S WHY  
WHEN I LIST MY WORTHLESS JUNK  
ON EEBDAY...

...I MAKE SURE TO ACCURATELY DEGRADE! AFTER  
ALL, IF THERE'S ANYTHING YOU LEARN IN A CRYPT,  
IT'S HOW TO GET YOUR COLLECTIBLES SLASGED! AND I  
CERTAINLY MADE SURE TO PACK EVERYTHING SECURELY!  
I FIND THAT PINE BOXES WORK BEST FOR ME—  
ALTHOUGH THE SHRED-EX GUY DOESN'T  
SEEM TO APPRECIATE IT!

THUMP  
KNOCK  
KNOCK

THUMP  
KNOCK  
KNOCK

SO, LET'S NOT WAIT  
A HALF CENTURY UNTIL WE  
MEET AGAIN! BE BACK IN JUST  
SIXTY DAYS FOR MORE TALES  
FROM THE CRYPT!

# The Return of **TALES FROM THE CRYPT**



**I**t's one of the biggest surprises in the world of comics and graphic novel publishing! Shortly before the 2007 New York Comic Con, Papercutz announced that we would be publishing all-new TALES FROM THE CRYPT comics. After more than 50 years, EC Comics' legendary flagship title returns with all-new shocking SuspenseStories, narrated by the original Crypt-Keeper, Old Witch, and Vault Keeper. Each issue will feature two 20-page tales of terror in the EC tradition!

Reactions ranged from excitement—from fans thrilled to see the most famous horror comicbook ever return after over fifty years, to shock—that it was to be coming from a publisher primarily known for its graphic novels such as Nancy Drew and The Hardy Boys which contain material suitable for all-ages, as the HBO TALES FROM THE CRYPT series certainly contained a fair amount of adult content.

"People forget that the original TALES FROM THE CRYPT comicbook, published by the EC Comics back in the 50s, was also intended for all-ages, and its primary readership was young boys," Papercutz Editor-in-Chief Jim Salicrup is quick to point out. But that may be exactly what fans find so controversial. The original TALES FROM THE CRYPT comics, featuring stories dreamed up by EC publisher William M. Gaines and his editor Al Feldstein, and drawn by Feldstein, as well as Graham Ingles, Jack Davis, Jack Kamen, Joe Orlando, Wally Wood, Harvey Kurtzman, Bill Elder, Reed Crandall, Johnny Craig, Al Williamson, George Evans, and colored by Marie Severin, started a horror comics craze that soon drew the attention of psychiatrist Dr. Frederick Wertham.

Wertham reacted to horror comics' popularity with children by writing a book called "Seduction of the Innocent," which maintained that comics led to juvenile delinquency and even worse behavior. Parents were understandably alarmed, and soon the Senate Subcommittee to Investigate Juvenile Delinquency was taking a hard look at comicbooks. EC Comics publisher Bill Gaines spoke before the Subcommittee, but was unable to convince them that his comics were entertaining stories told in good taste. Ultimately, comicbook publishers adversely affected by the negative publicity created the Comics Magazine Association of America which would review comics and award a seal of approval to assure parents that the comic's contents were safe, wholesome entertainment.

Unfortunately, it was too late for many publishers, as the negative publicity had so hurt sales of comics that many comicbook companies went out of business. EC Comics, tried to hang in there, but despite canceling their horror comics, and creating new titles such as "Valor" and "Psychoanalysis," only MAD comics, in a new magazine format, survived.

The question is, was TALES FROM CRYPT really all that bad? "Of course not!" Salicrup insists. "Ironically, many of the original stories would be approved by today's revised Comics Code, but sure, there were some stories that still wouldn't get by. The point here is that the stories that Papercutz will be creating will be aimed at readers age 10 and up. Instead of excessive blood and gore, we'll be sticking to the TALES FROM THE CRYPT tradition of stories filled with interesting characters, lots of dark humor, and of course, the trademarked EC "shock" endings!"

But ultimately it's you who will decide if we succeeded or failed. Send your comments to us at [salicrup@papercutz.com](mailto:salicrup@papercutz.com) or to THE CRYPT-KEEPER'S CORNER, PAPER CUTZ, 40 Exchange Place, Ste. 1308, New York, NY 10005. We'll run the most interesting comments in our next issue, which is coming your way in just 60 days.

When reached for comment, The Crypt-Keeper said, "It's good to be back, boils and ghouls—and it's about time! Ahahahaha!"

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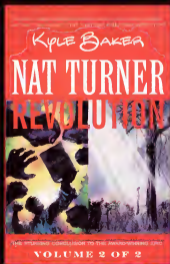
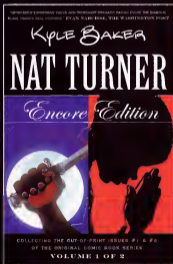
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# WHO SCANNED IT? WHY? CARDS?

*No one gives a crap who the scanner is except the scanner so stop worrying and just scan!*

**FRIENDLY SCANS  
EVERYBODY!**

FEEL FREE  
TO USE  
THIS TAG  
IN YOUR  
OWN EGO  
FREE SCANS

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